

House Resolution 1518

By: Representatives Cole of the 125th and Smith of the 113th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Bobby Cox and inviting him to be recognized by the House
2 of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Bobby Cox has recently expressed his intention to retire after the 2010 baseball
4 season; and

5 WHEREAS, his outstanding leadership, skill, wisdom, and abilities have made him one of
6 the best managers in the history of baseball; and

7 WHEREAS, we have been fortunate in the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia to have
8 been able to benefit from his remarkable talents in managing the Atlanta Braves and turning
9 the Braves franchise into one of the most successful teams of the past 20 years; and

10 WHEREAS, Robert Joseph "Bobby" Cox was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on May 21, 1941,
11 and

12 WHEREAS, after the end of his major league playing career in 1969, Bobby Cox began his
13 managerial career in 1971 with the farm system of the New York Yankees where he
14 compiled a highly successful record of 459 wins and 387 losses in six years and took the
15 Syracuse Chiefs to the Governor's Cup title in 1976; and

16 WHEREAS, he spent the 1977 season as the first base coach for the New York Yankees,
17 who won the World Series that year under manager Billy Martin; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1978, he replaced Dave Bristol as manager of the Atlanta Braves, taking over
19 a Braves team that had finished in last place in the preceding two years, and took the team
20 to an 81-80 record in 1980; and

21 WHEREAS, in the strike-shortened 1981 season, the Braves finished in fifth place and
22 Braves owner Ted Turner fired him; and, when asked by the media who was on his short list
23 to replace Bobby Cox, Turner replied, "It would be Bobby Cox if I hadn't just fired him. We
24 need someone like him around here."; and

25 WHEREAS, the next season, Bobby Cox joined the Toronto Blue Jays as their manager and
26 again took over a team that had finished in last place for several years and took the team to
27 a fifth-place finish with a 78-84 record; and

28 WHEREAS, he followed the success of the 1982 season by leading the Blue Jays to their
29 first winning seasons in 1983 and 1984 before winning the American League East division
30 title in 1985; and

31 WHEREAS, in 1986, he returned to the Braves as their general manager and, in the middle
32 of the 1990 season, to correct slumping team performance and attendance, he again took over
33 as the manager; and

34 WHEREAS, after finishing in last place in 1990, he led the Braves to a first-place finish in
35 1991 and a World Series appearance; and

36 WHEREAS, he followed the success of the 1991 season with a string of 14 consecutive
37 division titles and five World Series appearances, winning the 1995 World Series; and

38 WHEREAS, he enters the 2010 campaign with a career record as a manager of 2,413 wins
39 and 1,930 losses for a .556 winning percentage and fourth place in the Major League all-time
40 managerial win list; and

41 WHEREAS, he has been named the Manager of the Year four times and is the winningest
42 manager in the history of the Braves organization; and

43 WHEREAS, he has garnered the respect and admiration of players, coaches, and baseball
44 fans everywhere; and

45 WHEREAS, the Atlanta Braves dugout will never be the same without Number 6 on the
46 bench shouting encouragement to his players and guiding the team with his steady hand; and

47 WHEREAS, it is altogether fitting and proper to honor this outstanding individual and
48 express to him how grateful we are for all that he has done for the Atlanta Braves and
49 baseball fans everywhere.

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
51 the members of this body recognize and congratulate Bobby Cox for a marvelous and
52 remarkable career in America's pasttime, express their appreciation for all that he has
53 accomplished with the Atlanta Braves over the past 20 years, and extend to him best wishes
54 for continued success.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Manager Bobby Cox is invited to be recognized by the
56 House of Representatives at a date and time to be designated by the Speaker of the House of
57 Representatives.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
59 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Bobby Cox.